

## *Vacancy Details*

**Personnel Notice:** 134-15  
**Date Announced:** 10/26/2015  
**Closing Date:** 11/6/2015  
**Command:** ONR  
**Grade:** GS-13/14/15  
**Type:** Assistant Counsel

There is an opening for an Assistant Counsel within the General Law Branch of the Office of Counsel, U.S. Naval Research Laboratory (NRL) within the Office of Counsel, Office of Naval Research (ONR). The position is physically located at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Stennis Space Center near Slidell, Mississippi. This position will serve clients at the NRL detachment located within the NASA/Stennis Space Center (NRL-SSC).

Come work with some of the nation's top scientists and engineers pursuing their passions forecasting the path of tropical cyclones and exploring the ocean's depths all in support of the US Navy & Marine Corps, DoD, Homeland Security, and other agencies in defense of the United States. As the Assistant Counsel for General Law at the NRL Detachment Stennis Space Center you will help to facilitate the work of oceanographers, geophysicists, meteorologists, and computer scientists. Located on the Mississippi Gulf Coast, only 50 miles from New Orleans, NRL Stennis employees enjoy a slower pace of life, great local schools and low cost of living.

NRL Headquarters is located in Washington, D.C. NRL is a premier research facility with cutting-edge research programs in basic sciences and advanced technology development. NRL is the corporate research laboratory for the Navy and Marine Corps and conducts a broad program of scientific research and development of advanced technologies. NRL's 30 person Office of Counsel supports these efforts by providing the full range of legal services related to acquisition, civilian personnel law, technology transfer, FOIA, standards of conduct, facilities, and the protection of Government developed technologies. NRL-SSC is the Navy's premier laboratory for physics-based oceanographic environmental predictions, remote sensing, the physics of underwater acoustics, mapping, charting and geodesy, and characterization of the seafloor.

The primary purpose of this position is to provide legal advice and representation in the areas of acquisition, standards of conduct, technology transfer (including Cooperative Research & Development Agreements, licensing, and Work for Private Parties Agreements under 5 USC 2539b), civilian personnel law, facilities, and other business-related matters. Periodic travel may be required.

NRL compensation falls under a Personnel Management Demonstration Program. This position is at the NO-IV/V career level in the NRL Demonstration Program. The Program uses career levels (aka pay bands) for pay setting. At the NO-IV career level, salary will be set equivalent to a GS-13 salary level which currently ranges from \$83,468 to \$108,507, and at the NO-V career level salary will be equivalent to a GS-14 or GS-15 salary which currently ranges from \$98,633 to \$150,830. Career level and pay will be set based on the qualifications of the successful applicant. If the position is filled at the NO-IV career level, the position will have promotion potential to the NO-V level. To be eligible for selection at the GS-13 salary equivalent within the NO-IV career level, the selectee must have in excess of two years of relevant experience working as a lawyer. To be eligible for selection at the GS-14 salary equivalent within the NO-V career level, the selectee must have at least three-and-a-half years of relevant experience working as a lawyer. To be eligible for selection at the GS-15 salary equivalent within the NO-V career level, the selectee must have at least five-and-a-half years of relevant experience working as a lawyer.

Applicants will be evaluated on: 1) the depth, breadth and quality of their legal experience as it relates to the responsibilities of the position; 2) their oral communication skills and ability to develop a strong attorney-client relationship; 3) their ability to work both independently and as part of a team; 4) their research, analytical, and writing skills; and 5) their interpersonal skills. Experience working in an RDT&E/Academic environment, a Working Capital Fund organization, establishing good attorney-client relationships, and working independently from a satellite office is not required but is desirable.

The successful candidate must: be a U.S. citizen; have graduated from a law school accredited by the American Bar Association; be an active member in good standing of the bar of the highest court of a State, U.S. Commonwealth, U.S. territory, or the District of Columbia; be admitted to practice before a state or federal court; and be eligible to obtain and maintain a Secret security clearance.

To apply, applicants must submit a resume, OF-612 or SF-171 and a cover letter that addresses the evaluation criteria for this position and the applicant's projected availability. The cover letter should also provide the names and telephone numbers of at least three references (other than current supervisors) who may be contacted. Applicants should clearly indicate if they do not want us to contact their current supervisor. Applicants must also submit two

legal writing samples (not exceeding 10 pages each; the sample may be part of a longer document) and their two most recent performance appraisals, if available.

Current federal government employees should indicate their current GS and step level or equivalent grade and salary. Attorneys who graduated from law school after 2010 must submit a law school transcript. Interested attorneys may contact Mr. Charles Steenbuck at 202-767-5815 or [Charles.steenbuck@nrl.navy.mil](mailto:Charles.steenbuck@nrl.navy.mil) for additional information.

Send all documents to:

Mr. Charles Steenbuck  
Deputy Counsel, Code 1008.1  
U.S. Naval Research Laboratory  
4555 Overlook Avenue SW  
Washington, DC 20375  
Email: [Charles.steenbuck@nrl.navy.mil](mailto:Charles.steenbuck@nrl.navy.mil)

Electronic submissions are encouraged. If you wish to apply via hard copy, NRL recommends sending applications by commercial overnight service, such as Federal Express, as NRL USPS mail currently encounters delays due to screening and handling. Facsimiles will not be accepted.

This Personnel Notice will close at 11:59PM, Eastern Time, on November 6, 2015. Applications must be received by this date to be considered.

If the successful applicant is not currently a member of the Department of the Navy Office of the General Counsel, processing of the hiring action can only commence after submission of those items identified in the "Instructions for New OGC Attorneys" (see Careers section of [www.ogc.navy.mil](http://www.ogc.navy.mil)).

Applicants eligible for veterans' preference must specifically claim such eligibility in their cover letter, identify the basis for the claim, and include supporting documentation (e.g., the DD 214, Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty or other supporting documentation) with their submission. Not all veterans are preference eligible. For a summary of time periods, campaigns, and conditions that entitle an applicant to preference eligibility, please visit [www.opm.gov/veterans](http://www.opm.gov/veterans) and review the "Vets Info Guide" and the "Vets Guide." There is no formal rating system for applying veterans' preference for attorney appointments in the excepted service; however, the Department of the Navy Office of the General Counsel considers veterans' preference eligibility a positive factor in the attorney hiring process. Applicants who do not claim and do not provide adequate supporting documentation for veterans' preference will not receive the positive factor consideration.

The United States Government does not discriminate in employment on the basis of race, color, religion, sex (including pregnancy or gender identity), national origin, political affiliation, sexual orientation, marital status, disability, genetic information, age, membership in an employee organization, retaliation, parental status, military service, or other non-merit factor.

Reasonable Accommodation Policy Statement:  
[https://help.usajobs.gov/index.php/Reasonable\\_Accommodation\\_Policy\\_Statement](https://help.usajobs.gov/index.php/Reasonable_Accommodation_Policy_Statement)

Legal and Regulatory Guidance: [https://help.usajobs.gov/index.php/Legal\\_and\\_Regulatory\\_Guidance](https://help.usajobs.gov/index.php/Legal_and_Regulatory_Guidance)

If relocation expenses are a requirement, the applicant should state their requirement for this expense in the application package. Relocation expenses may be paid, but are not guaranteed.

Permanent Change of Station (PCS) funding may be available to those eligible.

#### **THE DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION EMPLOYER**

**The Department of the Navy is an Equal Opportunity/ Reasonable Accommodation Employer. All hiring and advancement in the Office of the General Counsel is based on merit without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, disability, political affiliation or marital status.**

**The Department of the Navy provides reasonable accommodation to applicants with disabilities where appropriate. Applicants requiring reasonable accommodation for any part of the application and hiring process should inform the individual identified in the personnel notice. Determinations on requests for reasonable accommodation will be made on a case-by-case basis.**

#### **VETERANS PREFERENCE IN HIRING**

**Department of the Navy attorney positions are in the excepted service, not the competitive civil service. There is no formal rating system for applying veterans' preference to attorney appointments in the excepted service; however, the Department of the Navy considers veterans' preference eligibility as a positive factor in attorney hiring. If you are eligible for veterans' preference in hiring, you are encouraged to include that information in your application along with the supporting**

documentation, e.g., DD 214. Not all veterans are eligible for veterans' preference. To find out if you are, you may visit the Veterans' Preference Advisor, operated by the Department of Labor at <http://www.dol.gov/elaws/vets/vetpref/vetspref.htm>.